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## ABSTRACT

A reputation/trust service provides reputation information to requesting clients. The reputation/trust service may obtain remuneration in response to providing the reputation data. The reputation/trust service may be automated and may support on-line access via a network, such as a computer network or a telecommunications network. The reputation/trust service is especially well adapted for use on the Internet. The reputation/trust service may provide reputation information for various types of parties, including but not limited to persons, groups of persons, organizations and companies. Reputation data may be held for multiple traits of any given party. Reputation data may be updated and validated on an ongoing basis.